

FAMILY LAW DURING THE COVID-19 CRISIS

WE ARE ONLY HEARING EMERGENCY MATTERS defined as follows:

- Domestic Violence Protection Order hearings
- Motions for temporary restraining orders where personal safety is at risk
- Motions for temporary orders or adequate cause where child safety is at risk or there is a risk of child abduction
- Motions for temporary orders, child support adjustment, or child support trials by affidavit
 where a person's basic financial survival is at issue (i.e., ability to maintain housing, basic
 necessities, and critical health care) or post-secondary (college) support is at issue and there
 are deadlines that cannot be moved
- Return on Warrant hearings
- Writs of Habeas Corpus and returns where there is a risk of abduction or an imminent risk of harm to the child
- Weapons Surrender Compliance Calendar
- Emergency motions on parenting issues where the health or safety of a child or adult is at risk due to COVID-19

All hearings are being conducted telephonically. Please see family law web pages for additional information: https://www.kingcounty.gov/courts/superior-court/family.aspx. The Local Family Law Rules continue to apply regarding how and where to set hearings.

AGREED ORDERS

Agreed orders may be submitted to the Ex Parte Department through Ex Parte Via the Clerk (EPVC), as otherwise permitted by Ex Parte Department policies, or as directed by your assigned judge.

AGREED DIVORCE FINALIZATION

Contact the Family Law Facilitator's office for instructions and documentation needed to have your divorce finalized.

For Kent Cases call: 206-477-2781For Seattle cases call: 206-477-2553

ASSISTANCE FOR SELF-REPRESENTED PARTIES AND FAMILY LAW SERVICES

Many services for self-represented parties, including mediation, parenting evaluations, assistance from the Family Law Facilitators, are being conducted by telephone and e-mail. See Family Law web pages for more information. https://www.kingcounty.gov/courts/superior-court/family.aspx.

WE ARE <u>NOT</u> HEARING ANY NON-EMERGENCY MATTERS.

Specifically, the following are *not* being heard:

- Trials unless the trial court finds that an exception should be made based on the emergency criteria
- Status/Non-Compliance hearings (These are being conducted by paper review)
- Pretrial Conferences
- Discovery motions
- Default motions
- Any other non-emergency motions, whether they are set in family law motions or set before the assigned judge, including non-emergency motions for revision

These procedures are in effect until April 24, 2020, but may be extended.